



LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY PRESENTS:  
SCIENCE AT THE THEATER

# COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET



**Arthur H. Rosenfeld, Ph.D.**

**Ronnen Levinson, Ph.D.**

**Melvin Pomerantz, Ph.D.**

**[FriendsOfBerkeleyLab.lbl.gov](http://FriendsOfBerkeleyLab.lbl.gov)**



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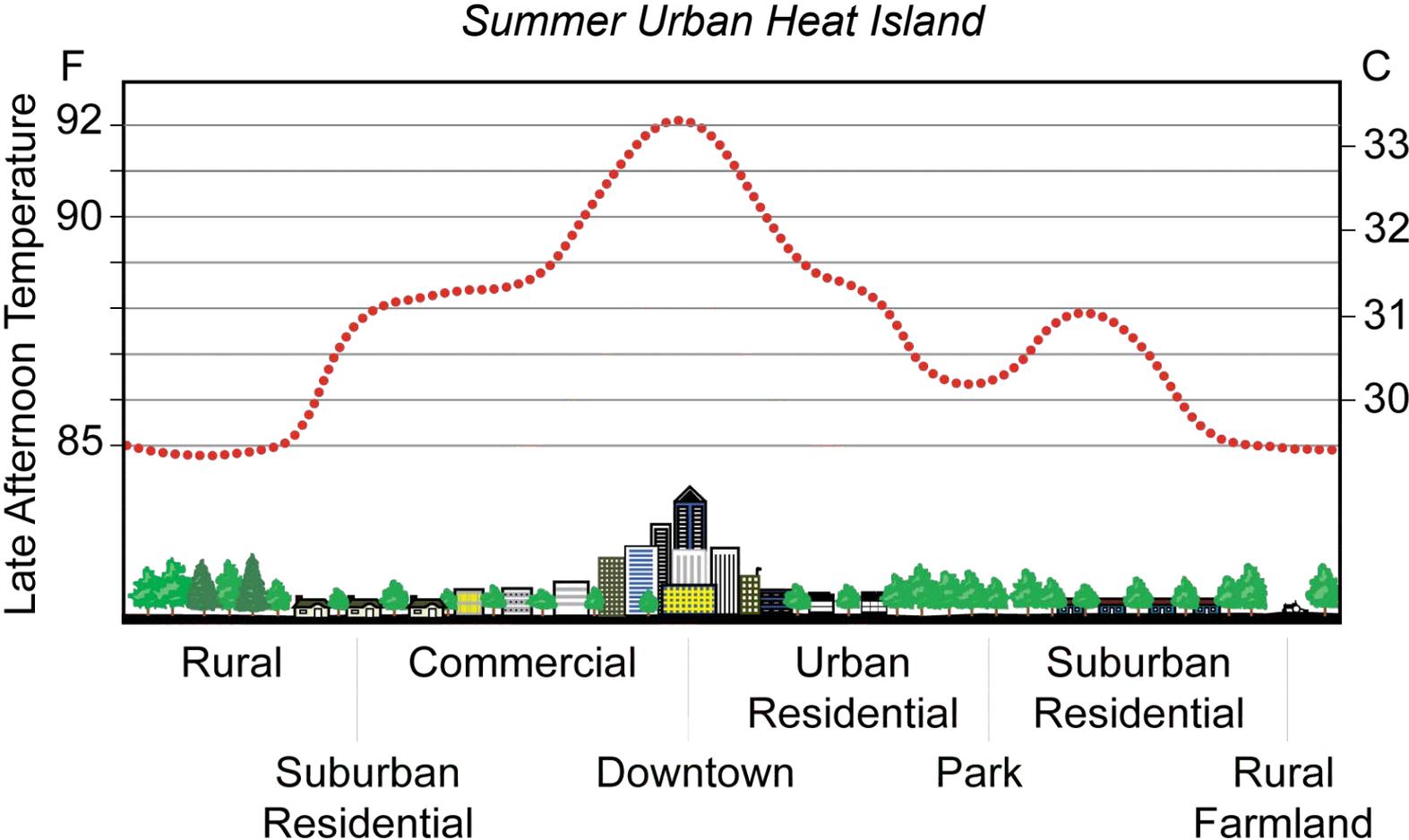
# COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET



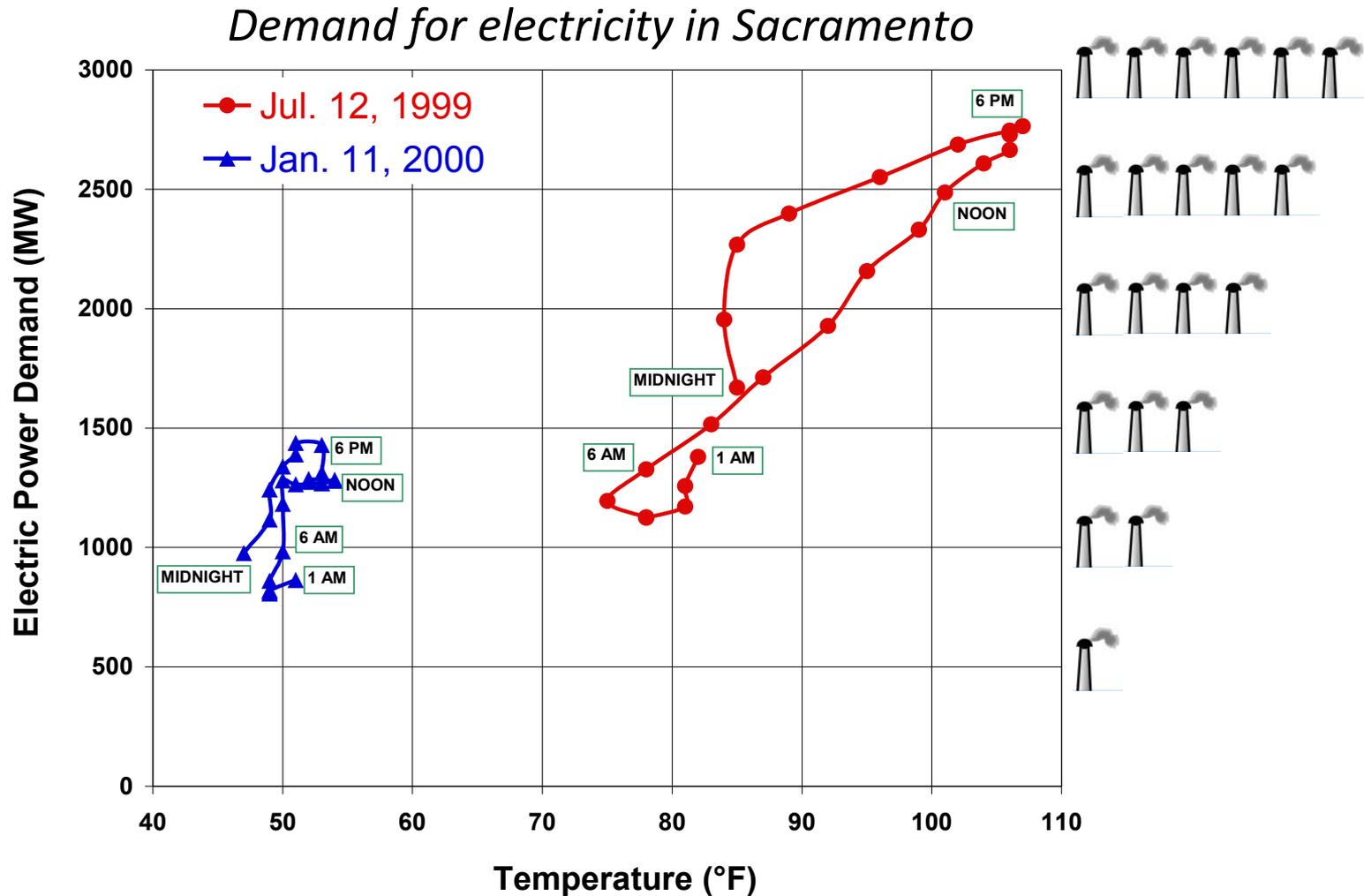
**Melvin Pomerantz, Ph.D.**  
**COOL SCIENCE**

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# Summer in the city



# Cool the city, save electricity



# 30,000 deaths in European heat wave (2003)

## 739 deaths in Chicago heat wave (1995)

- In Chicago, virtually all of the deaths occurred on the top floors of black-roofed buildings without air conditioning



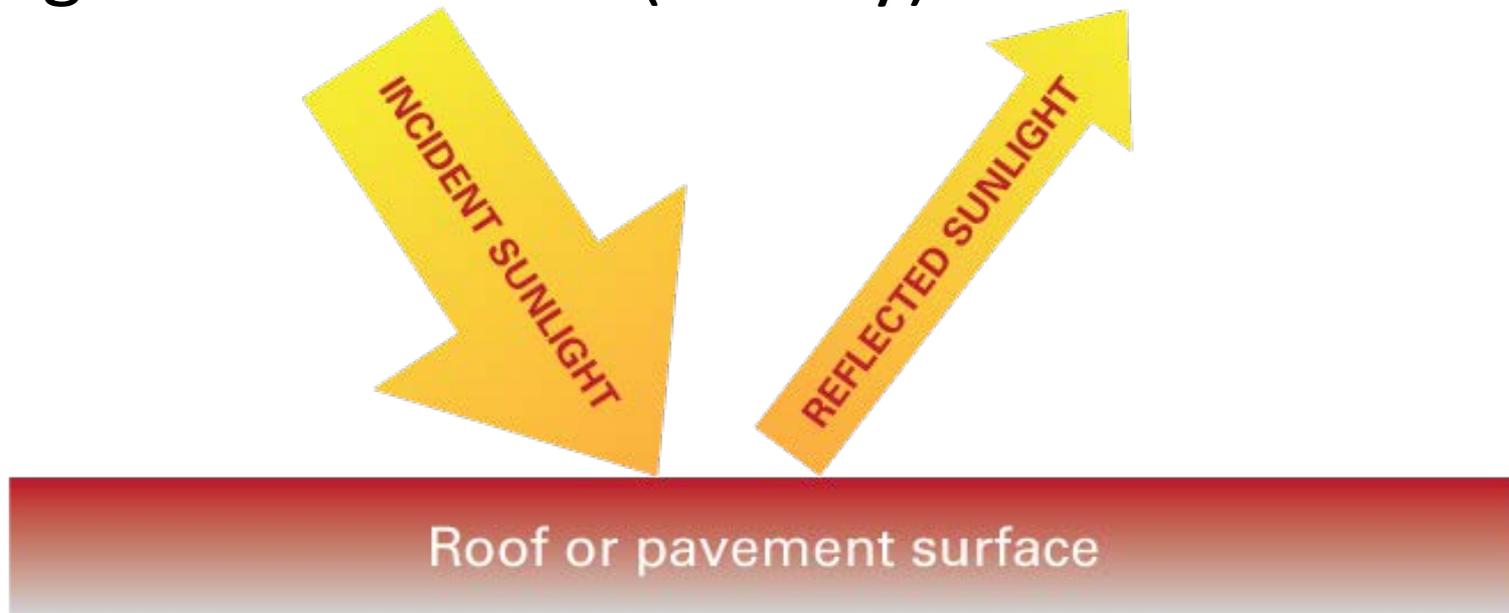
# How is air heated?

- Sunlight does not directly heat the air.
- Opaque surfaces (e.g., pavements & roofs) absorb some of the sunlight.

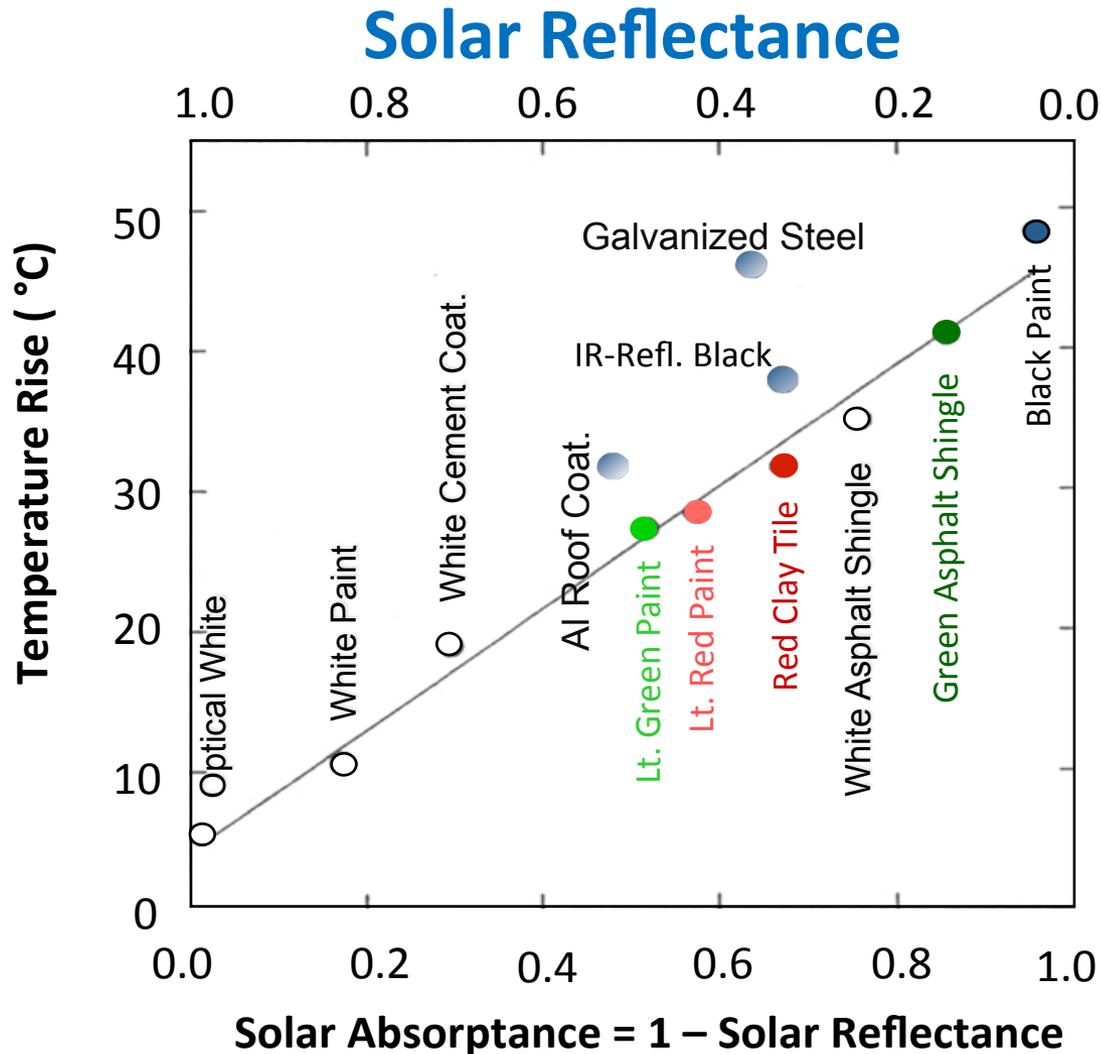


# Solar reflectance (SR)

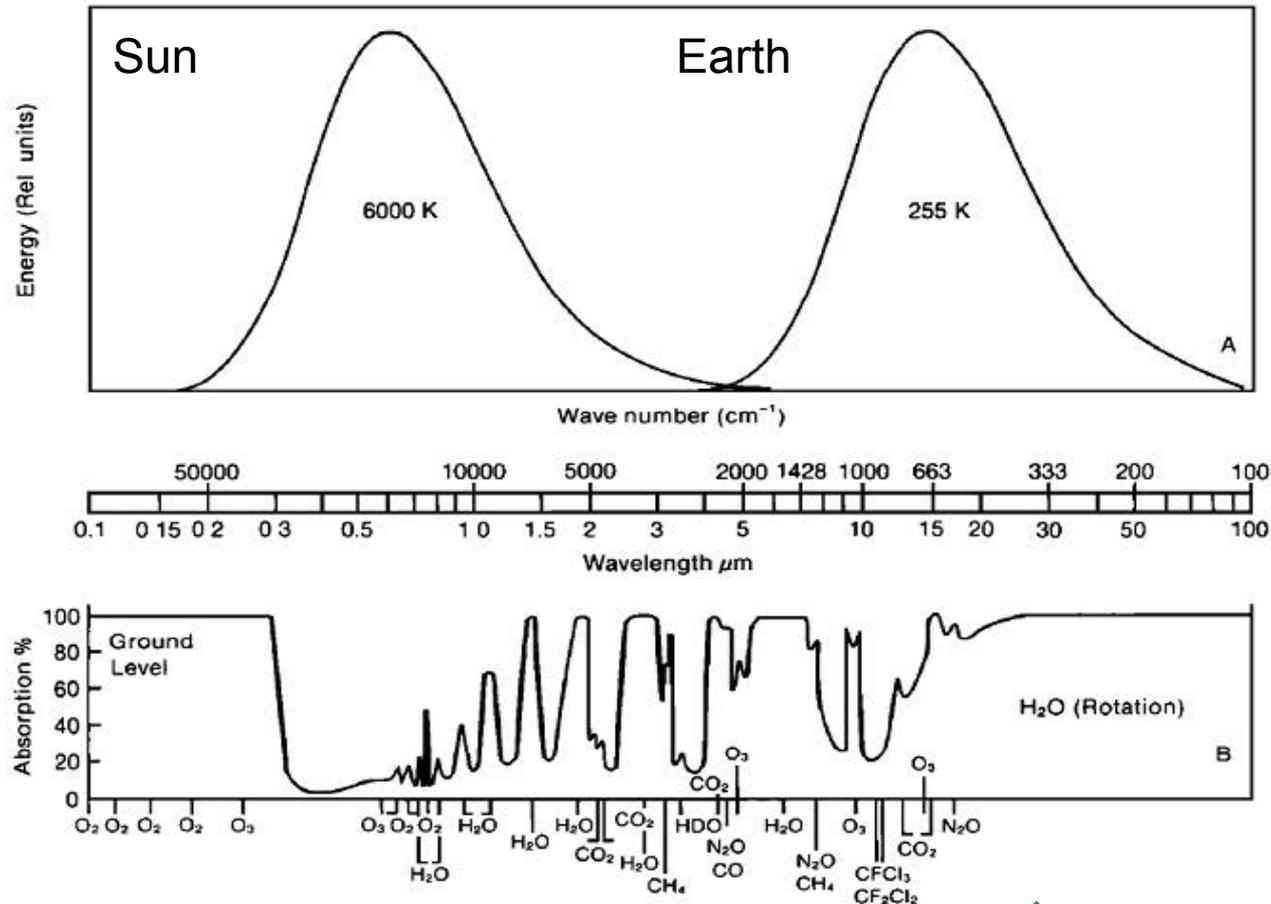
- SR = fraction of sunlight reflected =  
reflected sunlight ÷ incident sunlight
- Scale is 0 - 1 (or 0 - 100%)
- Higher SR is cooler (usually)



# Reflective roofs stay cooler in the sun



# Atmospheric greenhouse effect (i/ii)



Absorption by the atmosphere.



# Atmospheric greenhouse effect (ii/ii)

1. Sunlight heats the Earth.
2. Earth re-radiates thermal infra-red radiation (TIR).
3. Nearly all of the TIR is trapped by gases (H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, ...).
4. This is the “atmospheric greenhouse” effect.
5. **Increasing greenhouse gas concentrations warms the earth.**

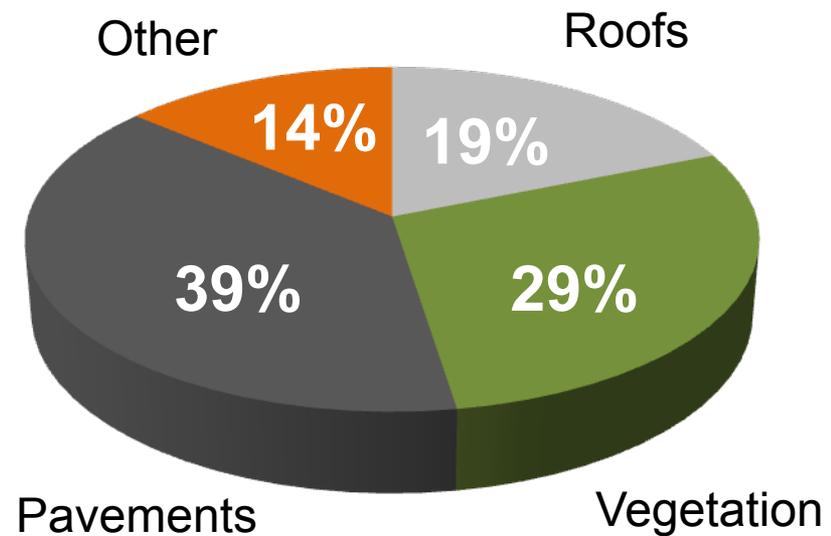


# What can we make cooler?



Sacramento  $\approx 1 \text{ km}^2$

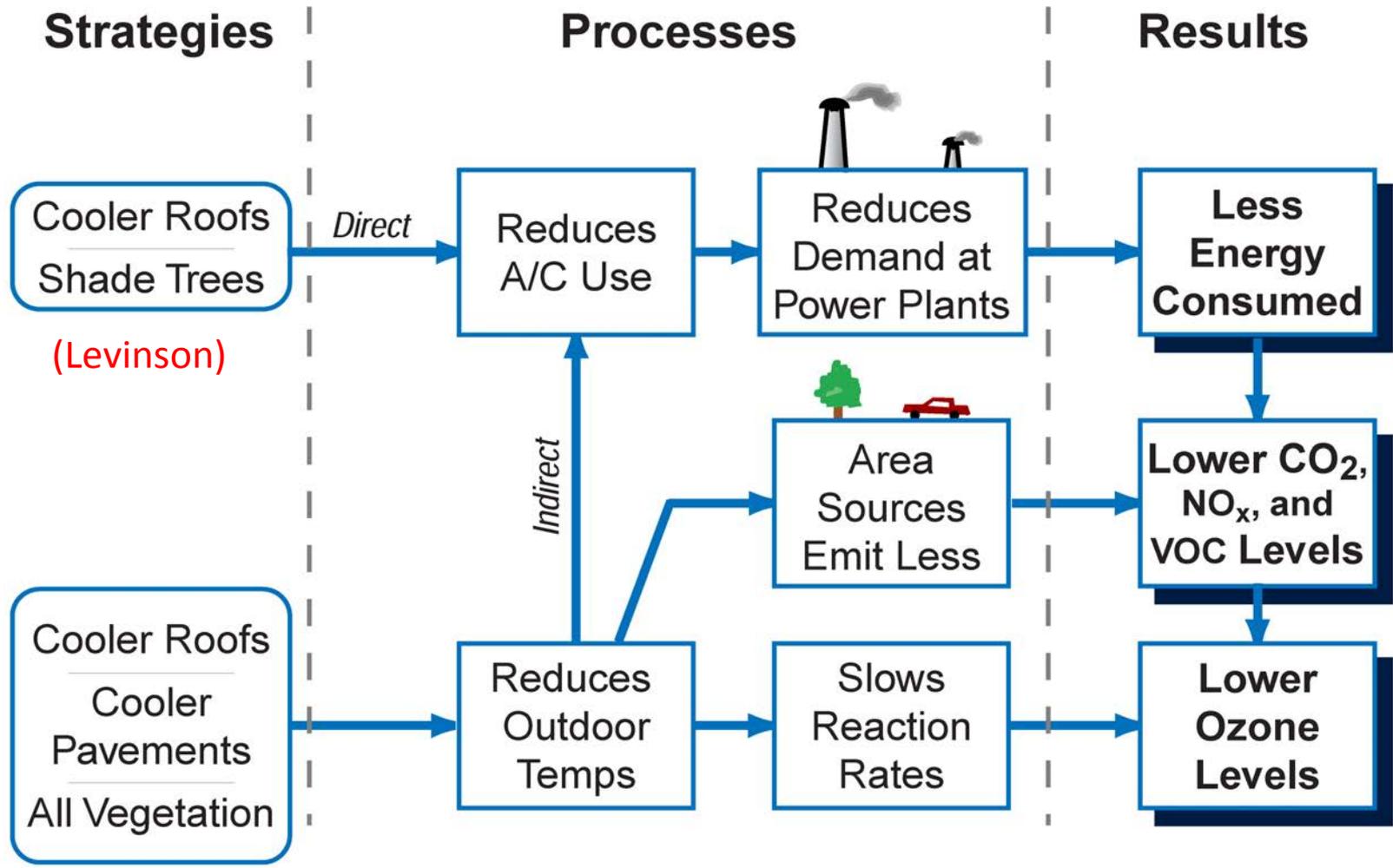
There are many man-made dark surfaces.



Urban fabric above tree canopy



# Strategies for cool communities...



# ...and a cooler planet!

- If we reflect sunlight, it mostly passes back out of the atmosphere *without heating the air*.
- Lowering the air temperature by reflecting sunlight is thermally equivalent to removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

**Reflective surfaces delay global warming.**

**(Rosenfeld)**





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# COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET

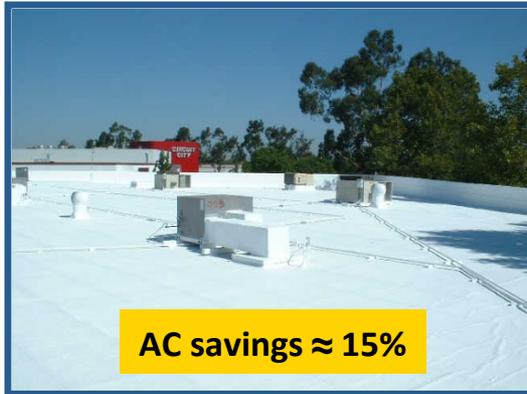


**Ronnen Levinson, Ph.D.**  
**COOL ROOFS**

**[FriendsOfBerkeleyLab.lbl.gov](http://FriendsOfBerkeleyLab.lbl.gov)**

# White roofs, cool-colored roofs

**OLD**



flat, white



pitched, white

**NEW**



pitched, cool & colored



# Potential U.S. white-roof benefits

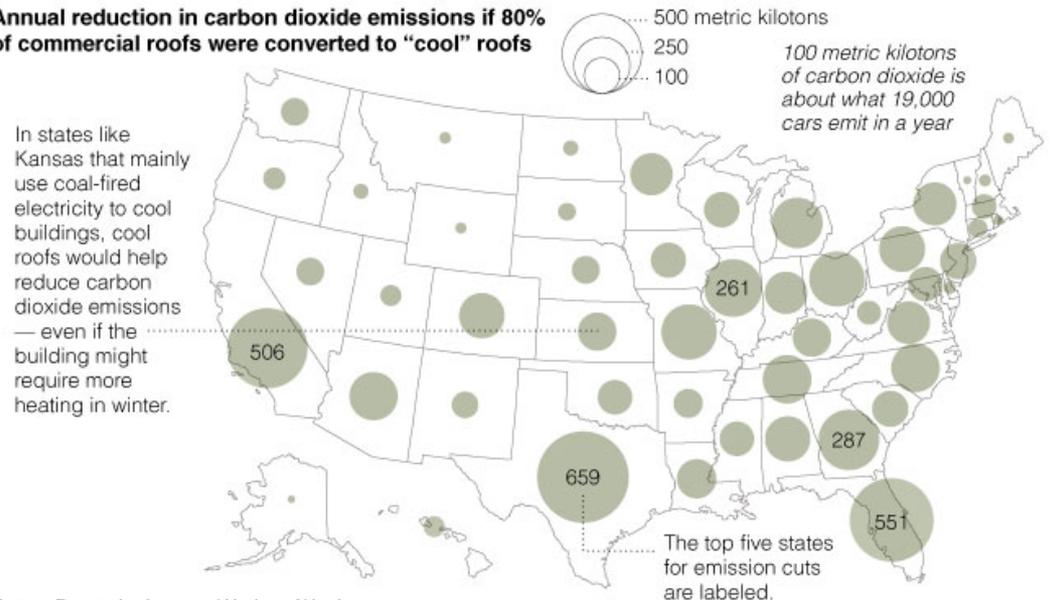
- Retrofitting 80% of U.S. air-conditioned commercial buildings (2.1B m<sup>2</sup>) would annually save
  - **\$735M**
  - **6.2 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> (=1.2M cars)**
  - **9.9 kt NO<sub>x</sub> (=0.6M cars)**
  - 26 kt SO<sub>2</sub>
  - 126 kg Hg**through energy conservation**
- Product lifetime energy savings has present value of **\$11B**

**New York Times, 30 July 2009**

## Imagining a Cool-Roof Nation

Dark-colored roofs absorb high levels of light and heat in the summertime. Researchers estimate that if 80 percent of commercial buildings were retrofitted with "cool" roofs that reflected heat, the nation could save enough on air-conditioning to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 6.23 million metric tons annually — the equivalent of taking 1.2 million cars off the road.

**Annual reduction in carbon dioxide emissions if 80% of commercial roofs were converted to "cool" roofs**



Source: Ronnen Levinson and Hashem Akbari, Heat Island Group, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

THE NEW YORK TIMES



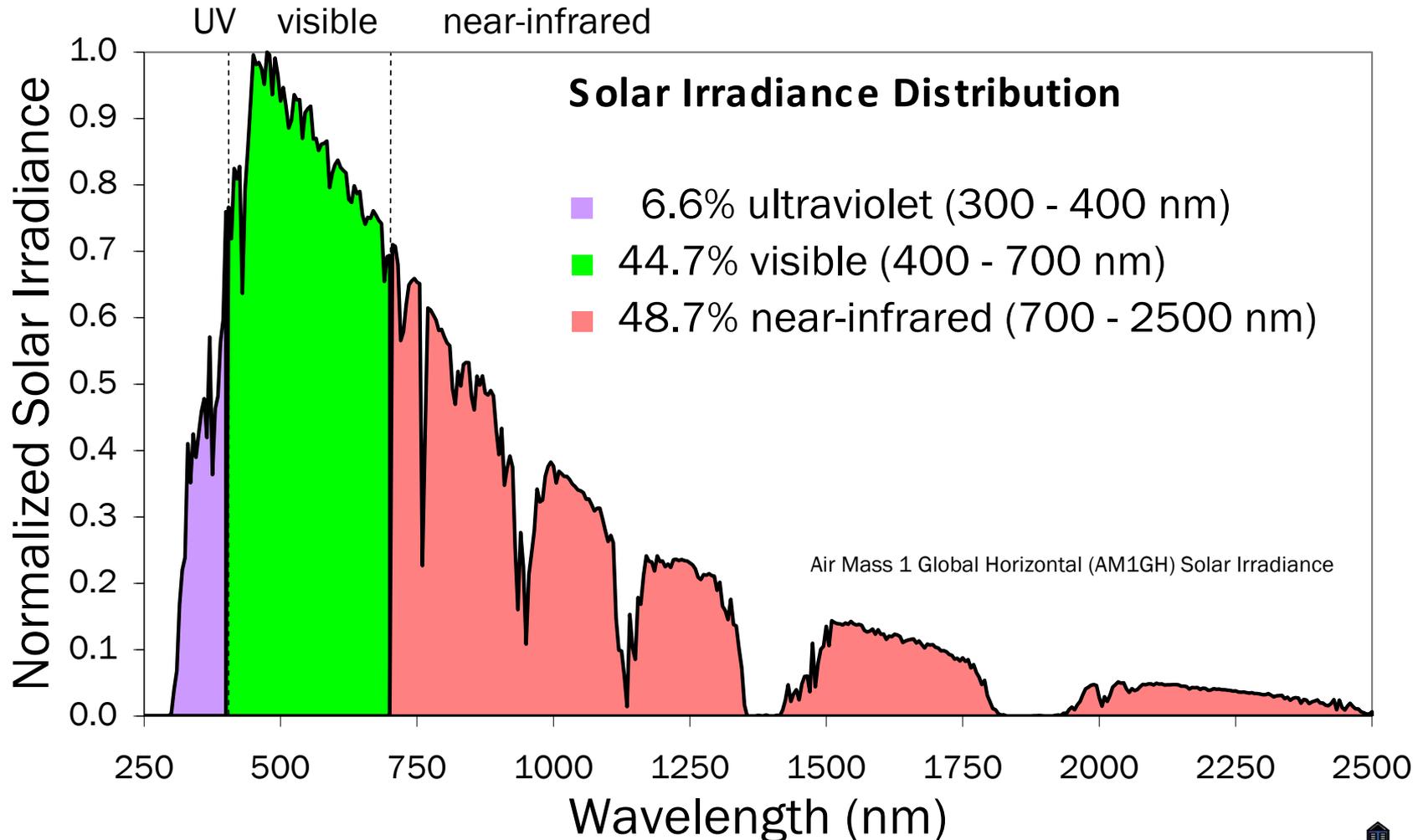


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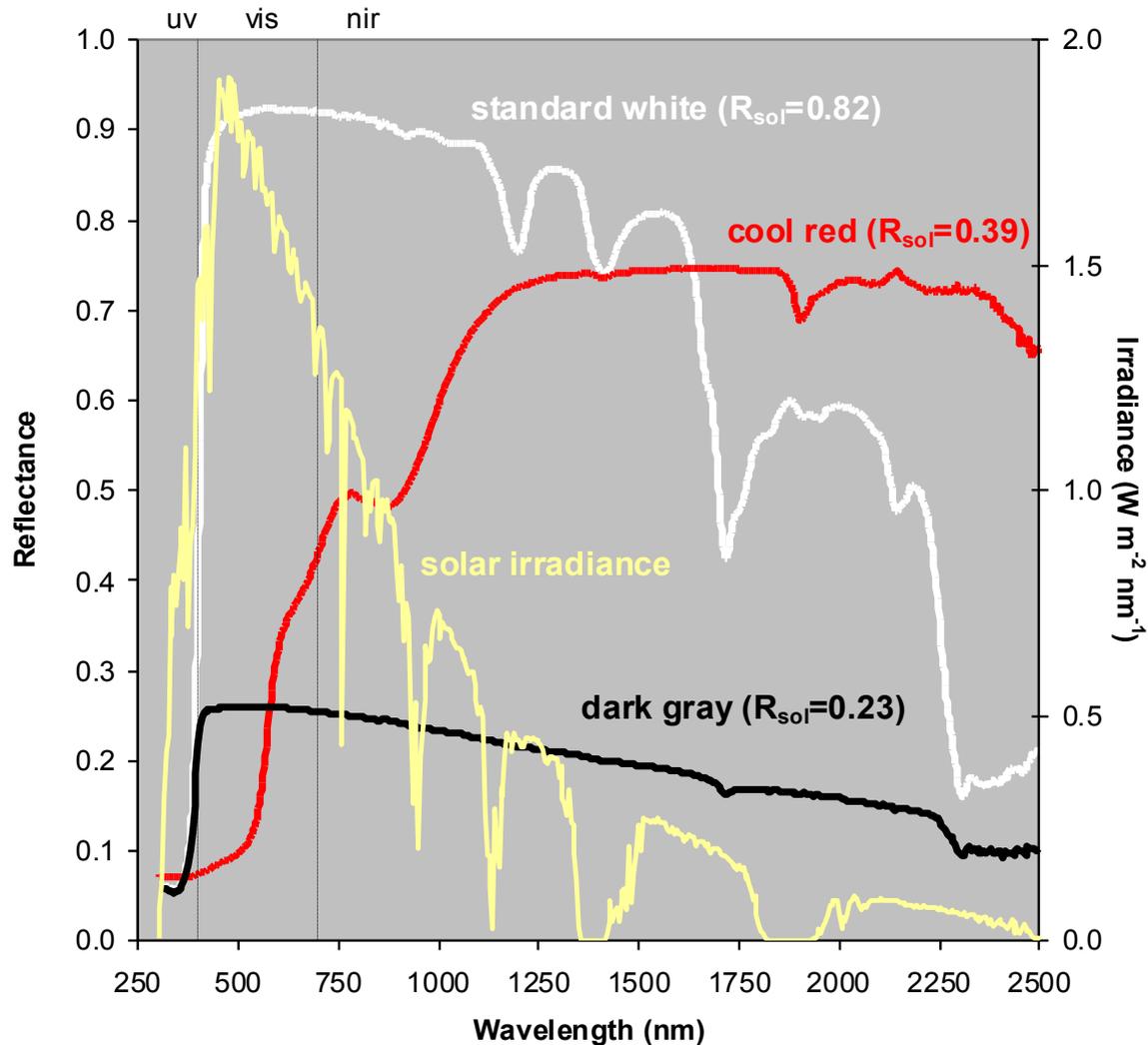
# COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET

## Cool Colors

# Sunlight — more than meets the eye



# White, cool color, warm color



white roof



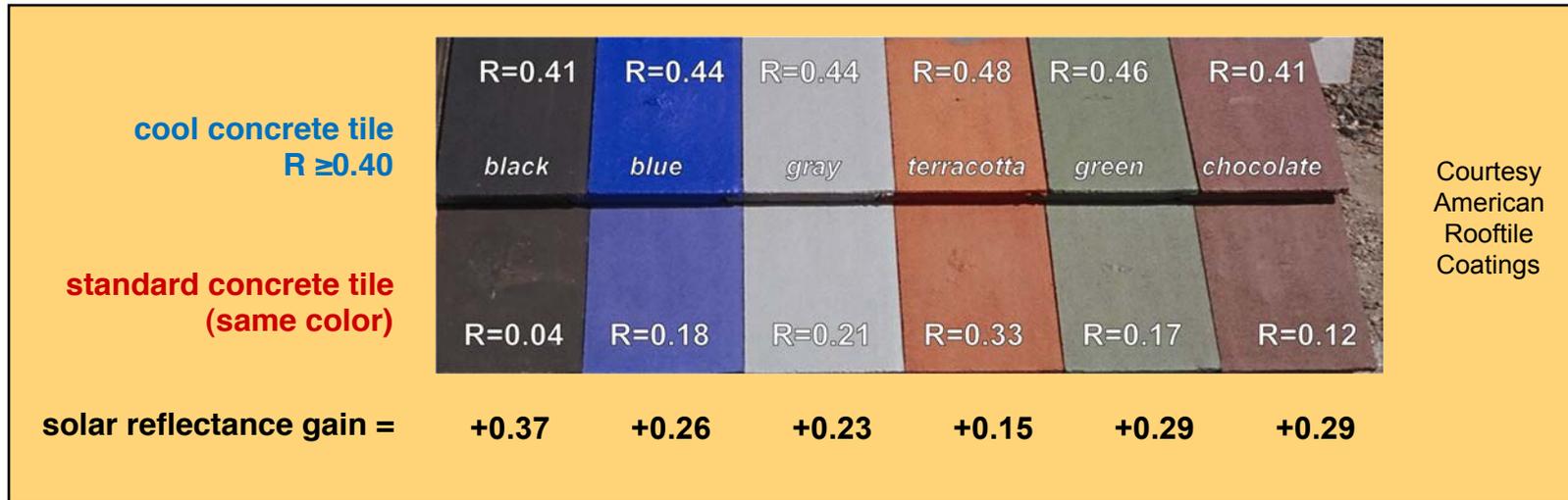
cool red roof



gray roof



# Cool colored roofs available today



**cool clay tile**  
R ≥ 0.40

Courtesy  
MCA Clay Tile



**cool metal**  
R ≥ 0.30

Courtesy  
BASF Industrial  
Coatings



**cool fiberglass asphalt shingle**

R ≥ 0.25

Courtesy  
Elk Corporation





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# **COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET**

## **Cool roofs of tomorrow**

# Advanced cool-colored asphalt shingles

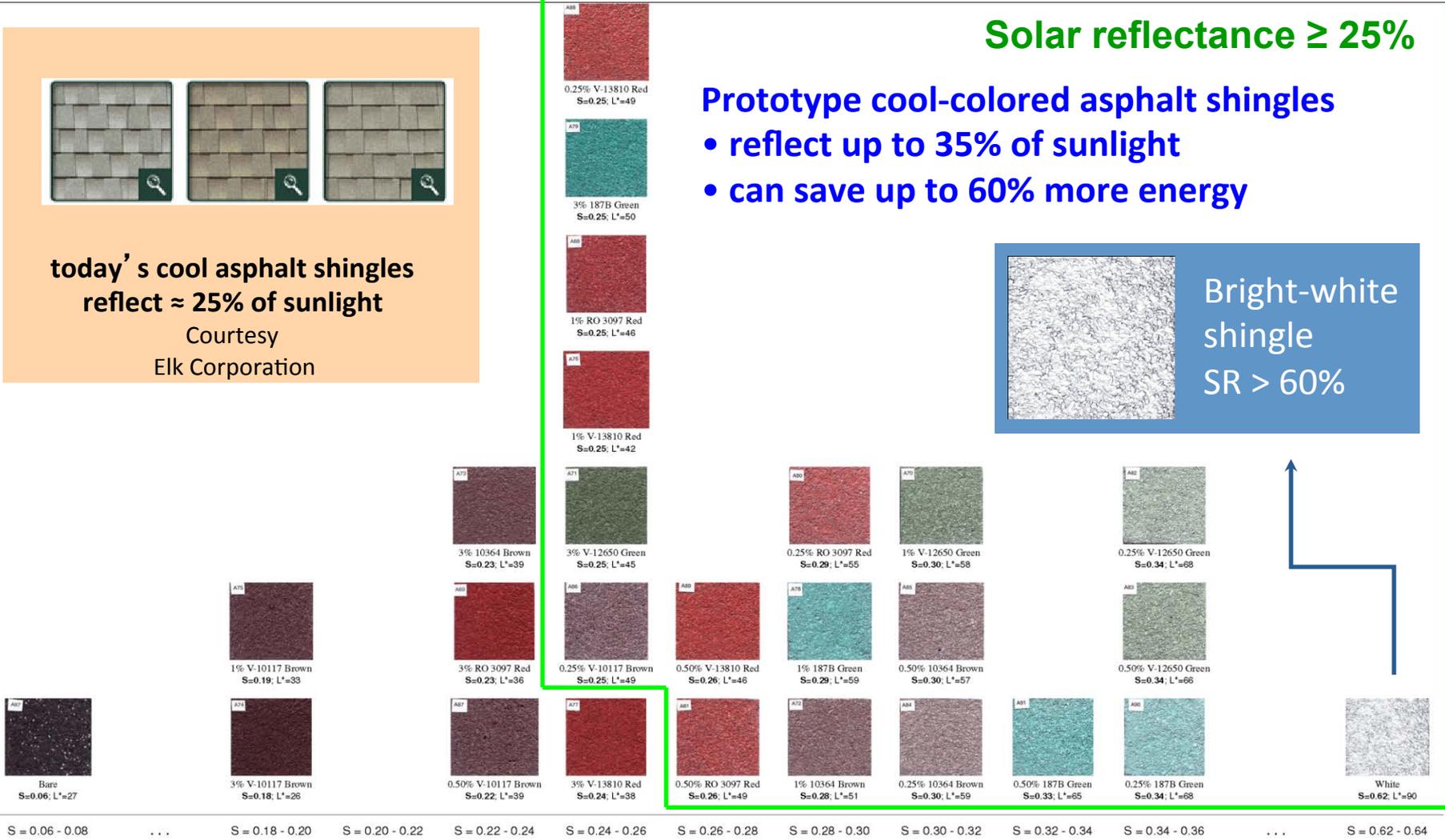
today's cool asphalt shingles reflect  $\approx 25\%$  of sunlight  
 Courtesy Elk Corporation

Solar reflectance  $\geq 25\%$

## Prototype cool-colored asphalt shingles

- reflect up to 35% of sunlight
- can save up to 60% more energy

Bright-white shingle  
 SR > 60%



# Advanced white roof coatings, membranes

Both roofs exposed  
for 9 years in Florida

Kynar® based  
coated metal roof  
with 0.80 Total  
Solar Reflectance

Elastomeric  
Acrylic over PVC  
with 0.55 Total  
Solar Reflectance



White metal roof stays clean,  
saving 70% more energy than  
soiled white coating.

- **White roof coatings, membranes soil rapidly, lose solar reflectance (SR)**
  - initial SR  $\approx$  0.80
  - aged SR  $\approx$  0.55
- **How to keep white roofs clean and reflective?**
  - reduce leaching of plasticizers
  - decrease surface roughness & stickiness
  - photocatalytic self-cleaning
  - photoinduced hydrophilicity





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# COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET



**Melvin Pomerantz, Ph.D.**  
**COOL PAVEMENTS**

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# Types of pavement



asphalt concrete  
← =  
“asphalt”

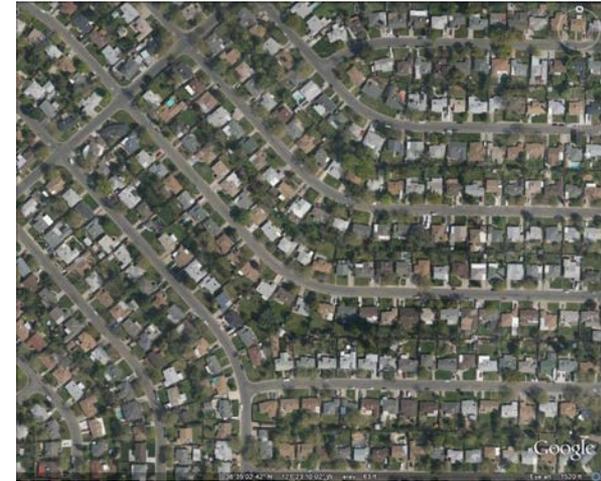
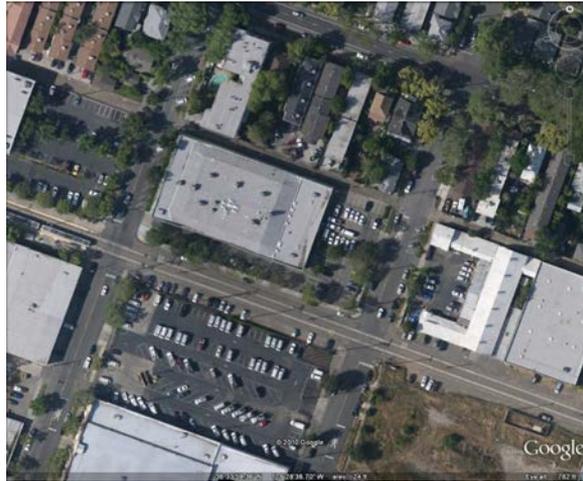


cement concrete

=  
“concrete” →



# Pavements cover about one-third of cities



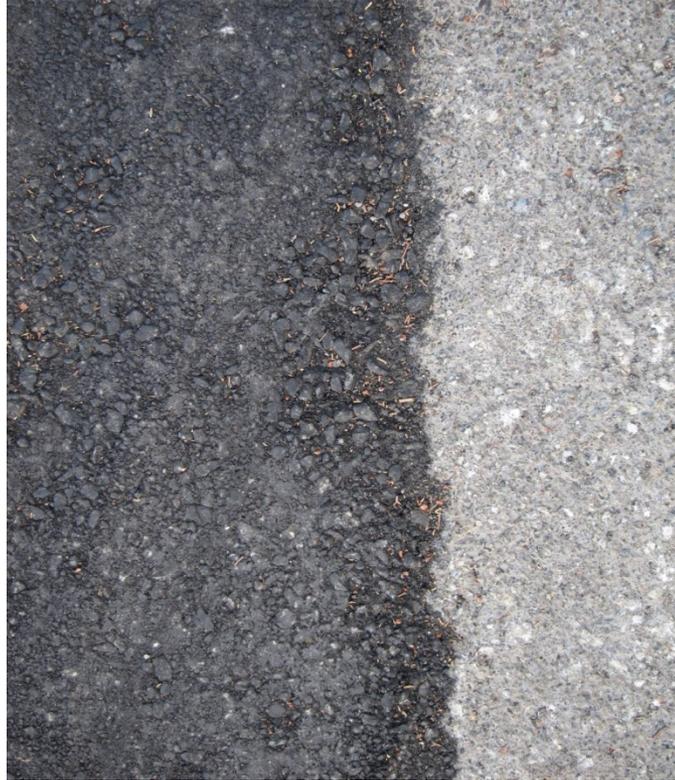
Of that third, about

- 50% are streets (usually asphalt concrete)
- 40% are exposed parking (usually asphalt concrete)
- 10% are sidewalks (usually cement concrete)



# Asphalt concrete – solar reflectance

Fresh asphalt concrete has an SR about 5%.



As it ages, its SR increases to about 15%.



# Cooler asphalt pavements

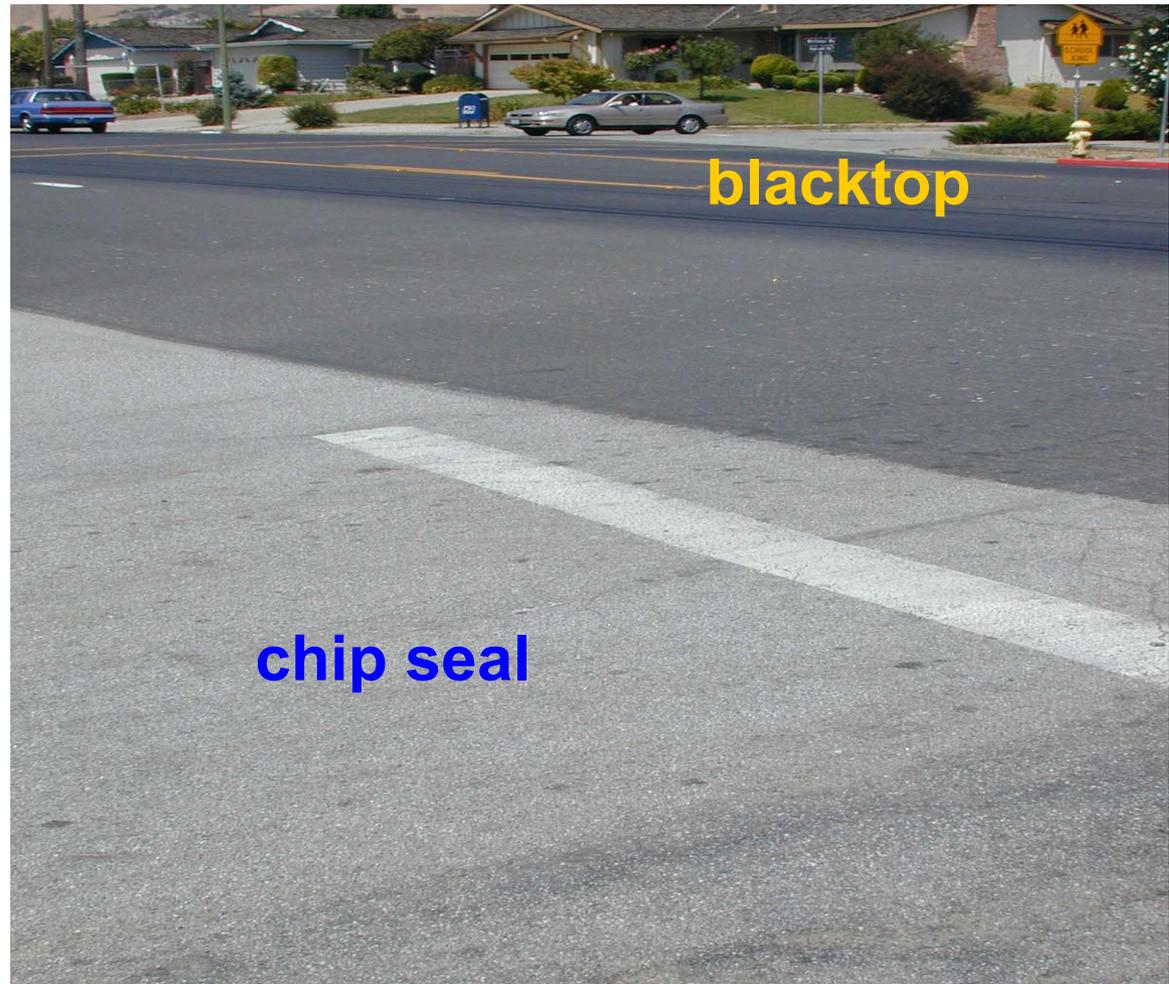
- ***New pavement:*** Use light-colored aggregate
  - Aggregate shows as the binder rubs off
    - Light-colored rock
    - Sea shells
    - Porcelain, etc.
- ***Older pavement:*** Use light-colored aggregate in surface coatings (“chip seals”)
- **Depends on availability of suitable aggregate**
  - Don’ t want to ship heavy rocks over long distances



# Light-colored chip seal in San Jose, CA

The side streets are resurfaced with light-colored chip seals.

The main road is “black-topped”.



# Cement concrete – solar reflectance (traditional gray-cement concrete)

Fresh  
cement  
concrete  
has an SR  
about 35%.



**NEW**

**AGED**

As it ages,  
its SR  
decreases  
to about  
20%.



# Cooler cement concretes

- **Cool.** Gray-cement concrete with light colored fine aggregate: **initial SR  $\approx$  40%**
- **Cooler.** Slag concrete, in which slag replaces about 50% of gray cement: **initial SR  $\approx$  60%**
- **Coolest.** White-cement concrete: **initial SR  $\approx$  70%**



Traditional gray-cement concrete



White-cement concrete

*Courtesy Concrete Technology Laboratory*





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**Arthur H. Rosenfeld, Ph.D.**  
**WHITE ROOFS AROUND  
THE WORLD**

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# White is “cool” in Bermuda



# ...in Santorini, Greece



# ...in Hyderabad, India



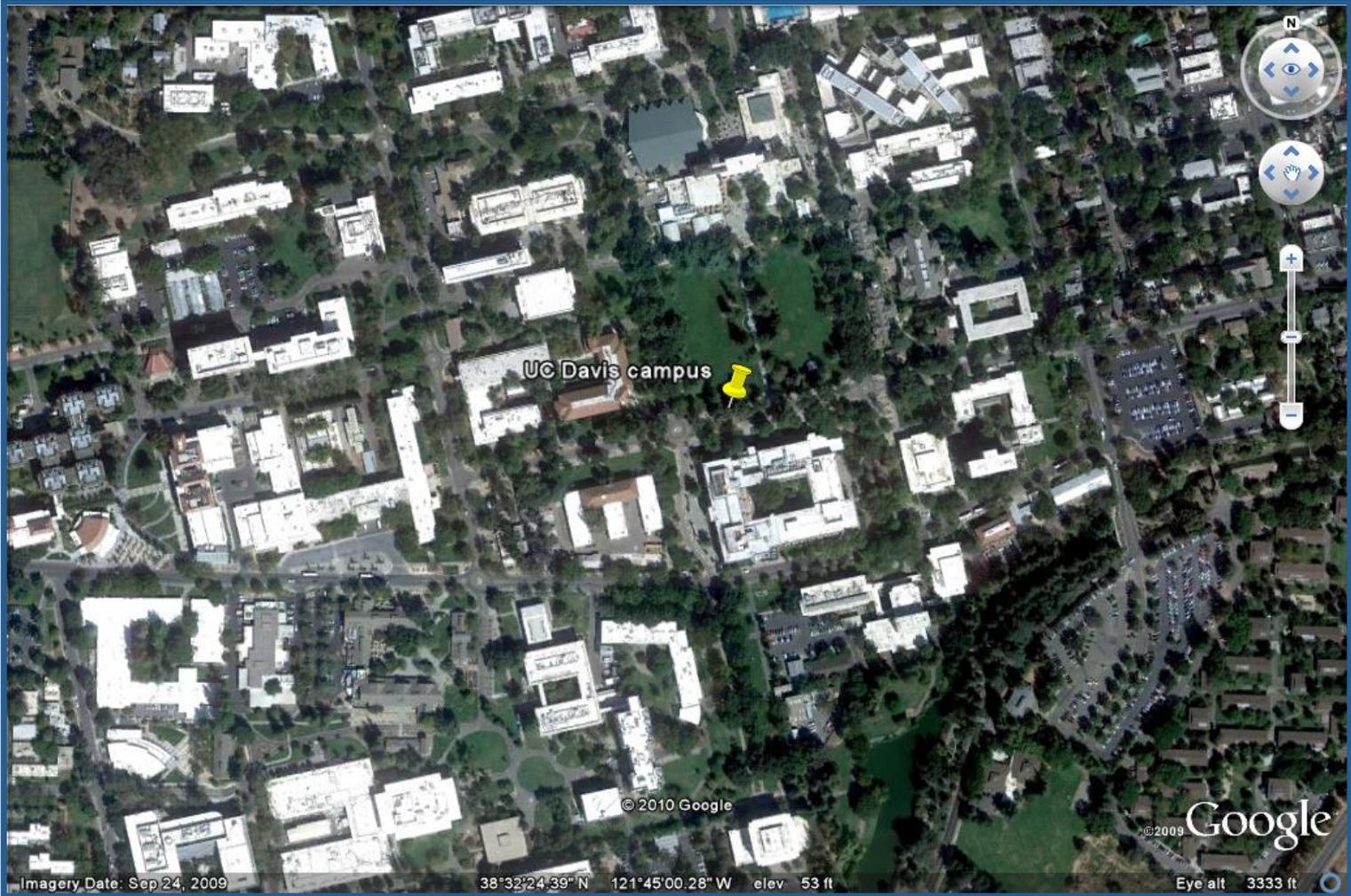
...and widely  
in the state of  
Gujarat, India.



# Walmart store in Northern California



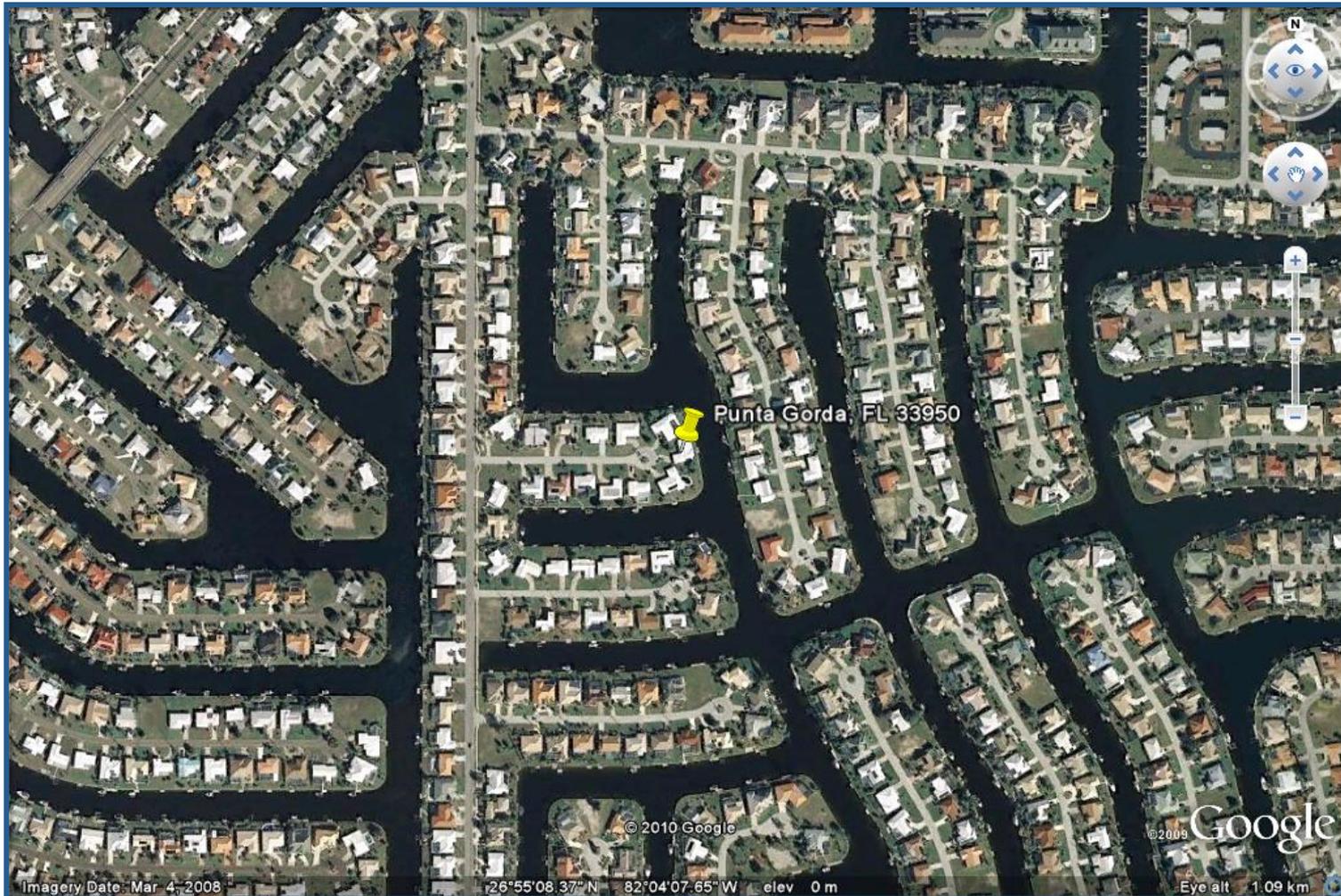
# Congratulations to UC Davis



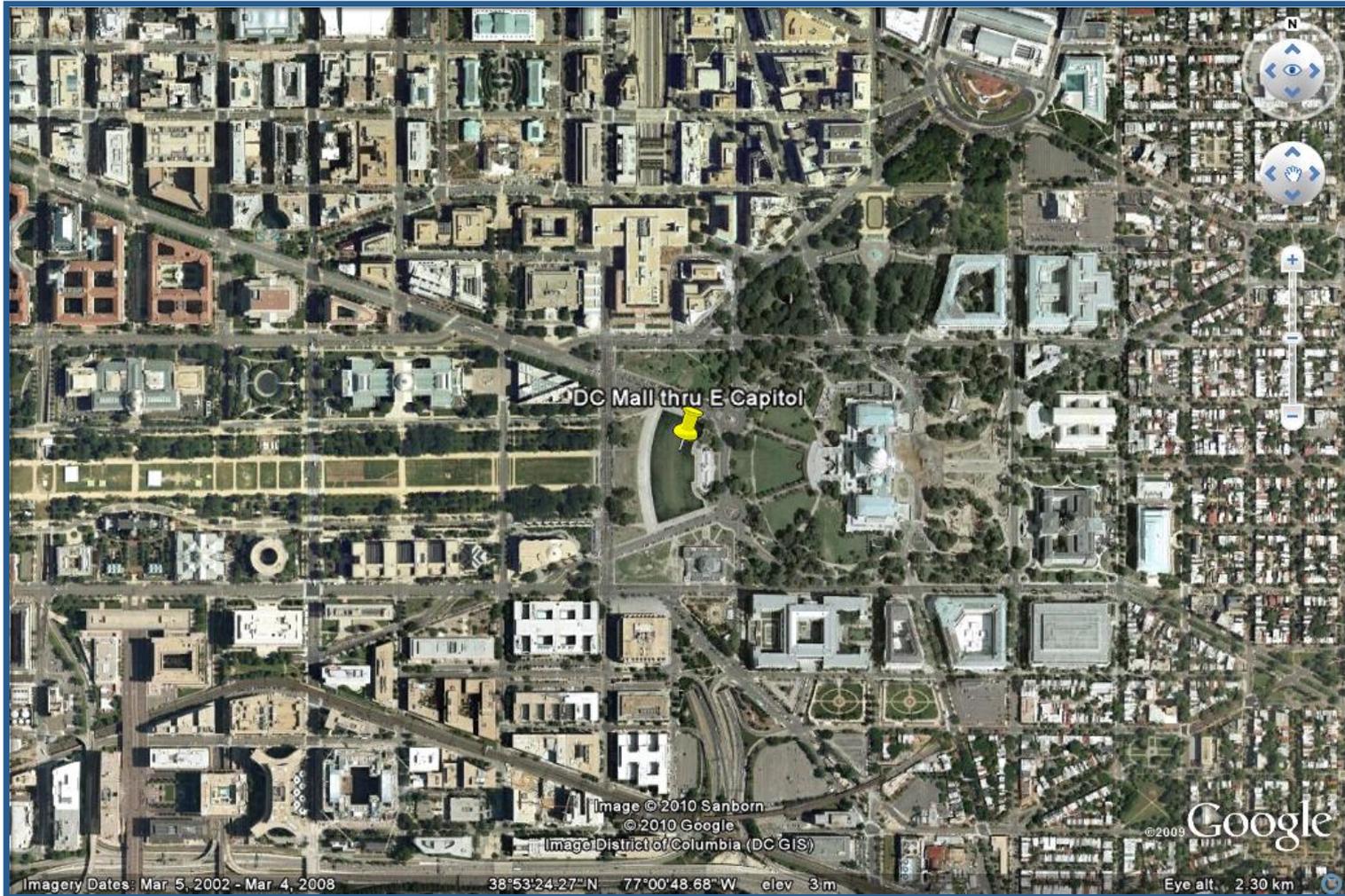
# White roofs are popular in Tucson, AZ



# ...and in Punta Gorda, FL



# Washington, DC (Federal) has problems



# Pentagon





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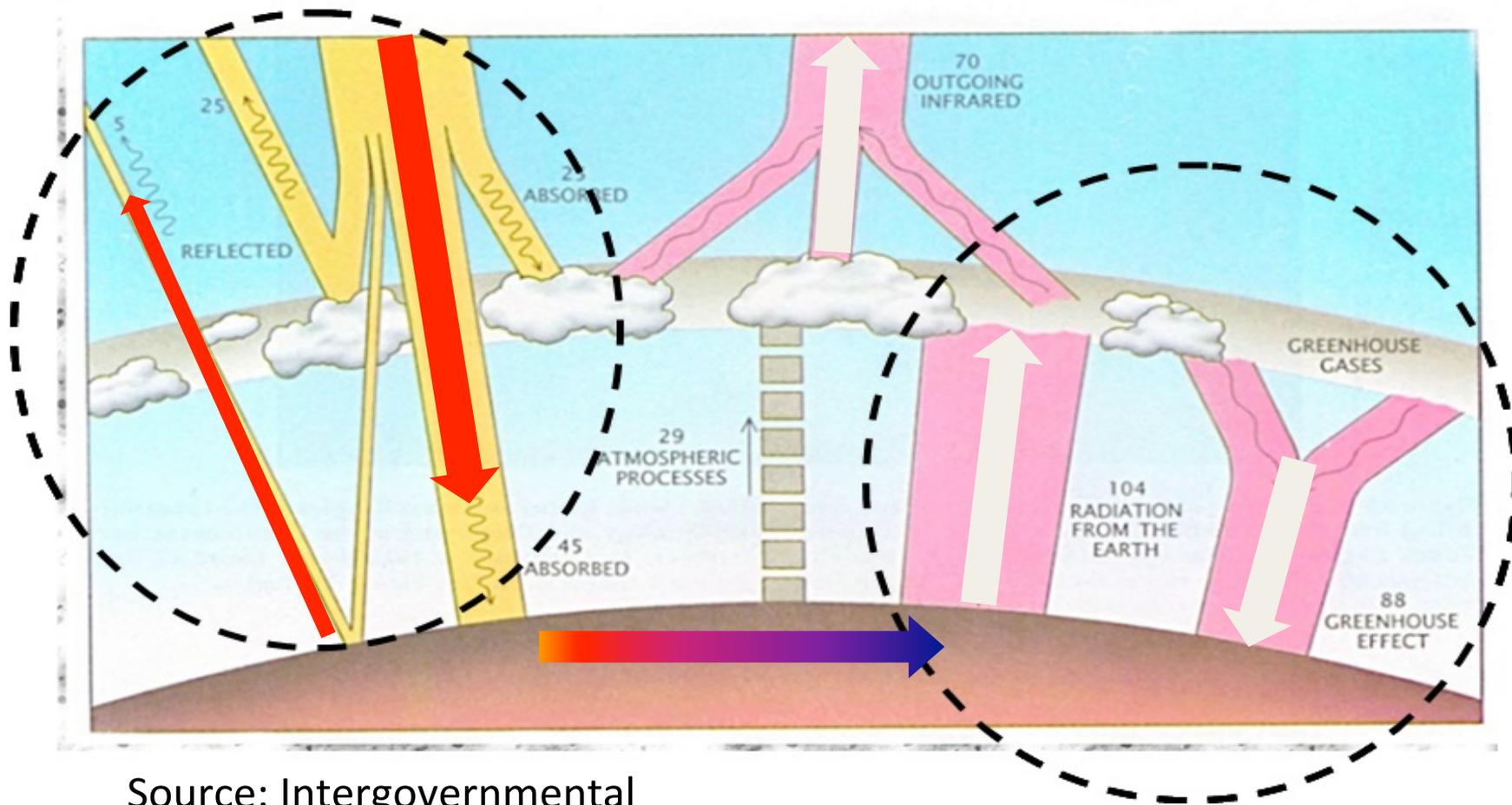
# COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET



**Arthur H. Rosenfeld, Ph.D.**  
**COOLING OUR PLANET**

**[FriendsofBerkeleyLab.lbl.gov](http://FriendsofBerkeleyLab.lbl.gov)**

# Solar-reflective surfaces cool the globe via “negative radiative forcing”



Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



# GLOBAL COOLING: Making 100 m<sup>2</sup> (1000 ft<sup>2</sup>) of gray roofing white offsets emission of 10 t of CO<sub>2</sub>



# How much CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent is offset if we whiten all eligible urban flat roofs world-wide? (i/ii)

- Answer: **24 Gigatonnes (Gt)**
  - 2/3 of a year's worldwide emission
  - Gigatonne = billion metric tons
- If implemented over 20 years (the life of a roof or a program) this is  $\approx 1.2$  Gt/year.



# How much CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent is offset if we whiten all eligible urban flat roofs world-wide? (ii/ii)

- Offset is equivalent to **taking 300 million cars off the road for 20 years.**
  - There are about 600 million passenger cars world wide, and they each emit  $\approx 4$  t CO<sub>2</sub>/year.





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# **COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET**

# **What to do now**

# Progress in energy efficiency standards

- In 2005, California's "Title 24" energy efficiency standards prescribed white surfaces for low-sloped roofs on commercial buildings.
- In 2008, California prescribed "cool colored" surfaces for steep residential roofs in its 5 hottest climate zones.
- Arizona, Florida and Georgia followed.
- **Other U.S. states & all countries with hot summers should follow.**



# Recent cool roof progress (2005 – 2011)

- 2005
  - California Title 24 – “Flat roofs shall be white” (15 climate zones)
  - EPA ENERGY STAR lists Cool Roof Materials
- 2010
  - June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – Memo from U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu calls for all DOE Buildings to have white roofs, if cost-effective
  - June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Marine Corp follows suit, Pentagon scratches head
  - June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – *RetroFIT Philly* announces winner of “coolest block” contest to white-coat black roofs of row houses.
- 2011
  - 100 Cool Cities launched – see [www.WhiteRoofsAlliance.org](http://www.WhiteRoofsAlliance.org)
  - Spring 2011 – US will offer, at G20 Energy Ministers meeting, technical assistance to developing countries who join a cool roof initiative.



# 100 Cool Cities would unite many initiatives and trade associations



ClimateWorks



EMERALD CITIES COLLABORATIVE  
GREEN • FAIR • DEMOCRATIC



American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

THE CLIMATE GROUP





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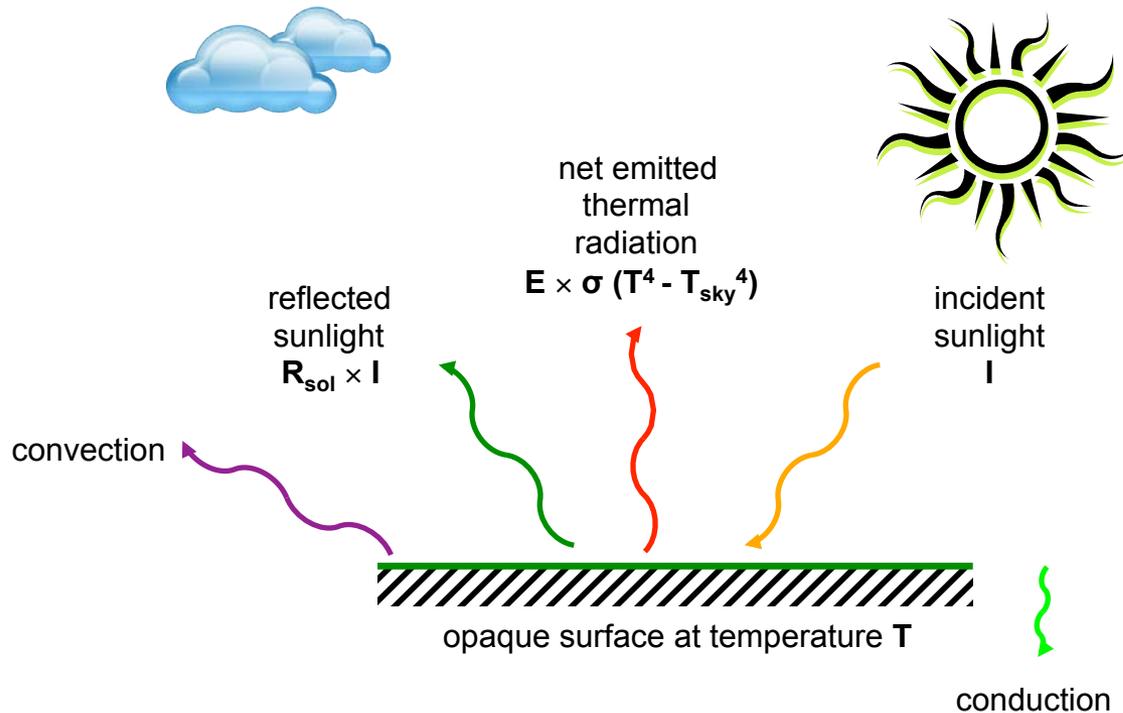


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# **COOL CITIES, COOL PLANET**

# **Supplemental slides**

# What makes a surface cool?



- High solar reflectance ( $R_{\text{sol}}$ ) lowers solar heat gain ( $0.3 - 2.5 \mu\text{m}$ )
- High thermal emittance ( $E$ ) enhances thermal radiative cooling ( $4 - 80 \mu\text{m}$ )

high solar reflectance + high thermal emittance = **low surface temperature**



# Surface temperature in Atlanta, GA

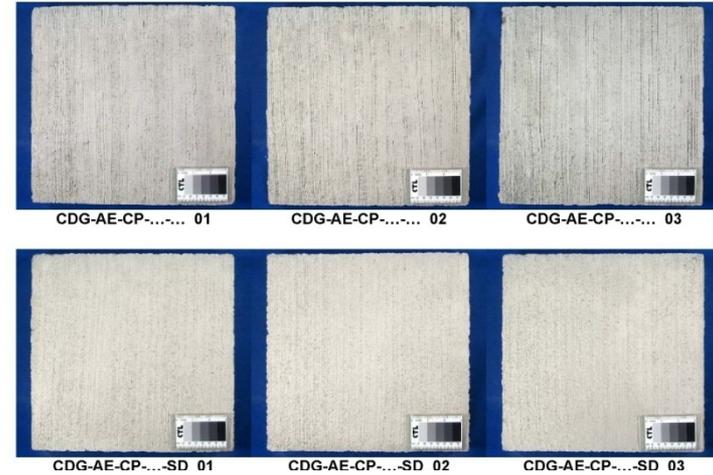


Temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

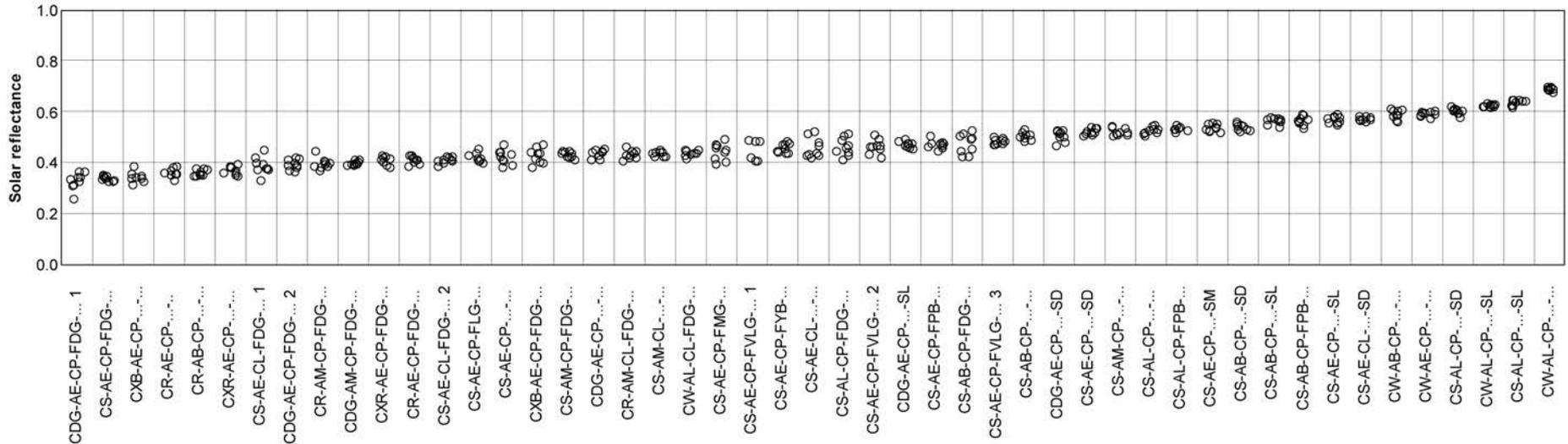


# Cool pavement technology: cement concrete

- Study by Portland Cement Association shows that cement concretes have solar reflectances of 0.30 – 0.65
- LEED compliant (SRI  $\geq 29$ )



Solar reflectances of 45 concrete mixes



# Resin binders

- SR: varies depending on aggregate
- Uses:
  - new construction, preventive maintenance
  - streets, sidewalks, parking lots, plazas, playgrounds



# Resin binders

Clear  
resin  
binder

Pavement Surface Temperature Measurements Recorded with Infrared Thermometer  
Lake Merritt, Oakland, California ~ 1:15pm - 1:30pm ~ July 15, 2010  
Ambient Temperature 80° F / 26.7° C

Pavement Type	Temperature (°F)
NATURALPAVE	106.5
CONCRETE	119.5
ASPHALT	128.5

**Natural PAVE**  
Resin Pavement

SRI VALUE 52.7

[www.sspco.com](http://www.sspco.com)



# Pervious / porous / permeable pavements

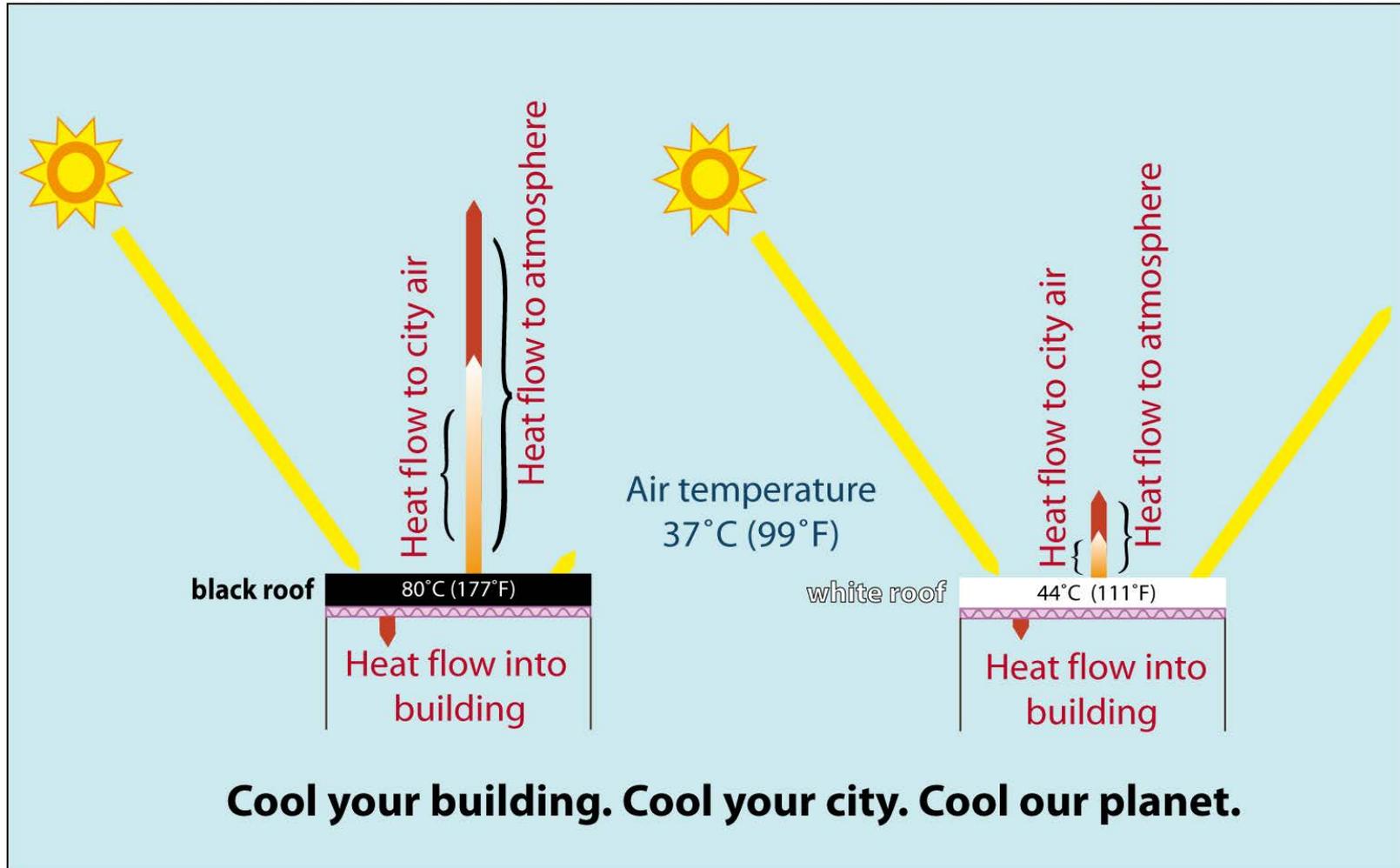
- Derives cooling from entrapped water
- Uses:
  - Rain water control, streets, shoulders, sidewalks, paths, alleys, parking lots, plazas, playgrounds
  - Can be made with any binder. (Use one size of aggregate so there are channels through the pavement.)



# Water flows very freely through a pervious pavement



# White roofs cool your buildings and cities and (this is NEW)... our planet!



# 3 papers and 1 memo estimate tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> offset by 100 m<sup>2</sup> (1000 ft<sup>2</sup>) of white roofing

	Study (Available at CoolWhitePlanet.org)	Method	Cloud cover estimation	CO <sub>2</sub> offset (atmospheric) per 100 m <sup>2</sup>	CO <sub>2</sub> offset (emitted) per 100 m <sup>2</sup>	World-wide potential CO <sub>2</sub> offset (emitted) from cool roofs	CO <sub>2</sub> offset compared to Akbari et al. 2009
1	Akbari et al. 2009 (LBNL)	Calculation	≈ 50%	5.5 t	10 t	24 Gt	100%
2	Menon et al. 2010 (LBNL)	GCM + land use model (summer only)	GCM	7 t	13 t	30 Gt	130%
3	Oleson et al. 2010 (NCAR) [CO <sub>2</sub> values from private communication between Oleson & Menon]	GCM + urban canyon model	GCM	7 t	13 t	30 Gt	130%
4	VanCuren et al. 2010 (CARB)	Measured solar radiation	not needed	3 t	5 t	Addresses CA only; coastal CA is foggy	50%

It is assumed that of 1 tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted only 0.55 tonnes remain in the atmosphere after one year, so the atmospheric and emitted columns are just in the ratio of 0.55/1.



# Building standards

**For planning purposes,** follow the lead of the California Public Utilities Commission and **internalize externalities.** Started at \$10/tonne CO<sub>2</sub>, and will increase to \$30/tonne CO<sub>2</sub>.

Thus, California already plans to incorporate externalities when optimizing building standards.

Externalities justify cool roofs on **non-air conditioned buildings.**

Apply externalities also to cool pavements, vehicle roofs, even train roofs.





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# Resources on the web

- Art Rosenfeld's website
  - [ArtRosenfeld.org](http://ArtRosenfeld.org)
- Cool Colors Project
  - [CoolColors.LBL.gov](http://CoolColors.LBL.gov)
- Heat Island Group
  - [HeatIsland.LBL.gov](http://HeatIsland.LBL.gov)
- Cool Communities Project
  - [CoolCommunities.LBL.gov](http://CoolCommunities.LBL.gov)
- Roof Savings Calculator
  - [RoofCalc.com](http://RoofCalc.com)
- White Roofs Alliance
  - [WhiteRoofsAlliance.org](http://WhiteRoofsAlliance.org)
- Cool Roof Rating Council
  - [CoolRoofs.org](http://CoolRoofs.org)
- Cool California
  - [CoolCalifornia.org](http://CoolCalifornia.org)
- EPA Heat Islands
  - [epa.gov/heatisland](http://epa.gov/heatisland)
- Energy Star Cool Roofs
  - [EnergyStar.gov](http://EnergyStar.gov)

